IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-96 (cancelled)

97. (currently amended) An electronic healthcare system, comprising:

a graphical user-interface;

at least one electronic computer communicating with the graphical user interface to provide:

(a) at least one electronic healthcare database including medical records;

(b) a set of <u>different</u> software ~~components~~ <u>applications</u> accessing records of the electronic healthcare database, <u>each software application having an independent interface allowing a user to access records of the electronic healthcare database for different patients</u>;

(c) a provider program running on the at least one electronic computer to:

(i) receive input from a user through the graphical user-interface identifying a new software ~~component~~ <u>application</u> to be initialized and opened;

(ii) review ~~currently open~~ software ~~components and~~ <u>applications currently open by the user to</u> determine ~~context data based on~~ a <u>current patient whose</u> records <u>are</u> being accessed by the currently open software ~~components~~ <u>applications</u>; and

(iii) initialize the new software ~~components~~ <u>applications</u> to also access records <u>related to the current patient</u> ~~according to the determined context data~~.

98. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the provider program further receives input from the user directing the new software ~~components~~ <u>applications</u> to be opened in one of multiple workspaces, each workspace ~~proving~~ <u>providing</u> a graphically distinct display on the graphical user-interface, and wherein:

the provider program reviews the currently open software ~~components~~ <u>applications</u> only in the identified one of the multiple workspaces.

99. (previously presented) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the provider program further accepts input from a user to switch between workspaces.

100. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 99 wherein the provider program further accepts input from a user to switch between open software ~~components~~ applications within a workspace.

101. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the ~~context data is~~ current patient is determined from a record identifier.

102. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the ~~context data is an identity of a patient~~ current patient is determined from a patient identification number.

103. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the software ~~components~~ applications include ~~activity programs~~ applications for scheduling patient appointments, ~~activity programs~~ applications for entering patient demographic data, ~~activity programs~~ applications for entering clinical documentation with respect to patient visits, ~~activity programs~~ applications for billing patients, and ~~activity programs~~ applications for clinical order entry.

104. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the provider program further reviews the electronic healthcare database to determine additional ~~context~~ data in the electronic healthcare database based on ~~the context data extracted from the records~~ the current patient and uses the additional data to initialize the new software application.

105. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the provider program further receives input from the user to provide additional ~~context~~ data.

106. (currently amended) The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the provider program includes:

a program database linking each software ~~components~~ applications to an identification of its required initialization data; and

wherein the provider program further executes to read the program database to initialize and open software ~~components~~ applications;

whereby new software ~~components~~ applications can be added to the electronic healthcare system by adding the new software ~~components~~ applications and its required initialization data to the software ~~components~~ applications database.

107. (currently amended)

The electronic healthcare system of claim 97 wherein the provider program further provides a set of common visual elements shared between the software ~~components~~ applications.

108. (currently amended) A method of managing data of an electronic healthcare database holding medical records, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a set of different software ~~components~~ applications, each accessing different portions of the records of the electronic healthcare database, each software application having an independent interface allowing a user to access records of the electronic healthcare database for different patients;

(b) receiving input from a user of the electronic healthcare database through identifying a new software ~~components~~ application to be initialized and opened;

(c) reviewing ~~currently open~~ software ~~components and~~ applications currently open by the user and determining ~~context data based on~~ a current patient whose records are being accessed by the currently open software ~~components~~ applications; and

(d) initializing the new software ~~components~~ applications ~~according to the determined context data~~ to also access records related to the current patient.

109. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 wherein the step of receiving input from the user receives input directing the new software ~~components~~ applications to be opened in

one of multiple workspaces, each workspace ~~proving~~ providing a graphically distinct display on the graphical user-interface, and wherein:

the step of reviewing currently the open software ~~components~~ applications reviews currently open software ~~components~~ applications only in the identified one of the multiple workspaces.

110. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 wherein each given workspace provides a graphical boundary, and wherein a new software ~~components~~ applications provides a graphical interface that is located within a graphical boundary of a workspace with which it is associated.

111. (previously presented) The method of claim 108 further including the step of accepting input from a user to switch between workspaces.

112. (currently amended) The method of claim 111 further including the step of accepting input from a user to switch between open software ~~components~~ applications within a workspace.

113. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 wherein the ~~context data is~~ current patient is determined from a record identifier.

114. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 wherein the ~~context data is an identity of a patient~~ current patient is determined from a patient identification number.

115. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 wherein the software ~~components~~ applications include ~~activity programs~~ applications for scheduling patient appointments, ~~activity programs~~ applications for entering patient demographic data, ~~activity programs~~ applications for entering clinical documentation with respect to patient visits, ~~activity programs~~ applications for billing patients, and ~~activity programs~~ applications for clinical order entry.

116. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 further including the step of reviewing the electronic healthcare database to determine additional ~~context~~ data in the electronic healthcare database based on the ~~context data extracted from the records~~ the current patient and uses the additional data to initialize the new software application..

117. (currently amended) The method of claim 108 further including the step of receiving input from the user to provide additional ~~context~~ data.